GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:280
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
IMPORT OF COTTON
GUNIPATI RAMAIAH

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of cotton imported during the last one year;

(b) whether price of indigenously produced cotton is higher than the price of the imported cotton;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the government to give relief to cotton growers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a): During 2000-01, import of cotton (including cotton waste) was 2,12,069 tons valued at Rs.1183 crore (approx.).

(b) & (c): Price of cotton differs from variety to variety. The landed price (weighted average) of imported cotton was higher than the weighted average price of domestic cotton. However, import of cotton depends, inter alia, on demand- supply and quality parameters.

(d): To protect the interests of the cotton growers Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed by the Government and supportprice operation is taken by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) whenever market price of kapas touch MSP. Upto 24.02.2002, CC has purchased 36,43,721 quintals of kapas (equivalent to lint cotton of 6,83,028 bales of 170 kg. each) under support price operation.

Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton to improve the productivity and quality of indigenous cotton.

Based on Cotlook `A` & `B` indices.